

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 PM-07 L-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

SPC-03 SAM-01 AF-10 IO-14 SAB-01 EB-11 DRC-01 /124 W

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R 312000Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 756

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR BR XF

SUBJ: VISIT OF LEBANESE FOREIGN MINISTER NAFFAH

SUMMARY: LEBANESE FOREIGN MINISTER NAFFAH BEGAN NON-OFFICIAL VISIT TO BRAZIL ON BEHALF OF ARAB LEAGUE ON EVENING JANUARY 29. THE PROSPECT OF HIS VISIT HAD NOT BEEN A SOURCE OF JOY TO THE BRAZILIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY. END SUMMARY

1. LEBANESE FONMIN FOUAD NAFFAH ARRIVED SAO PAULO EVENING JANUARY 29 TO BEGIN AN UNOFFICIAL VISIT ON BEHALF ARAB LEAGUE TO PRESS FOR ACCEPTANCE ARAB POSITION IN MIDDLE EAST. HE WAS WELCOMED BY LEBANESE COMMUNITY IN SAO PAULO, AND PROCEEDED TO BRASILIA ON EVENING JANUARY 30 FOR MEETINGS WITH FONMIN GIBSON BARBOZA AND PRESIDENT MEDICI.

2. FOUAD LIMITED HIS COMMENTS TO THE PRESS IN BOTH SAO PAULO AND BRASILIA TO AN EXPLANATION OF HIS MISSION, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS "BRINGING TO THE ATTENTION OF PUBLIC OPINION AND OF THE GOVERNMENT THE PROBLEMS OF THE MIDDLE EAST" AND A REITERATION OF ARAB DEMANDS FOR FULL WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAEL FROM TERRITORIES OCCUPIED DURING THE 1967 WAR
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AND RESTORATION OF THE NATIONAL RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS.

HE PROMISED TO HOLD A FULL BRIEFING FOR THE PRESS AFTER HIS MEETINGS WITH MEDICI AND GIBSON. THE PRESS NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE SUBJECT OF OIL WOULD INEVITABLY BE DISCUSSED.

3. COMMENT: FOUAD NAFFAH'S OUTSPOKEN PERFORMANCE IN BOGOTA AND BUENOS AIRES HAS CAUSED HIM TO BE THOUGHT OF AS SOMETHING LESS THAN THE PERFECT GUEST BY HIS BRAZILIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY HOSTS. FOREIGN MINISTRY SECRETARY GENERAL CARVALHO E SILVA TOLD CHARGE ON JANUARY 29 THAT HE THOUGHT THE NAFFAH VISIT WOULD BE A DIFFICULT ONE AND THAT "HE IS GOING TO ASK A LOT FROM US." OBVIOUSLY IN AN ATTEMPT TO RESTRAIN NAFFAH'S FREEWHEELING TENDENCIES, THE MAJOR-CIRCULATION NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED A FOREIGN MINISTRY-INSPIRED STORY ON JANUARY 29 WHICH STATED THAT THE BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES WOULD LISTEN CAREFULLY TO NAFFAH, BUT THAT ANY CHANGE IN BRAZILIAN POLICY OF "EQUIDISTANCE" COULD ONLY TAKE PLACE AFTER THE INSTALLATION OF THE NEW BRAZILIAN ADMINISTRATION.
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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Subject: VISIT OF LEBANESE FOREIGN MINISTER NAFFAH SUMMARY: LEBANESE FOREIGN MINISTER NAFFAH BEGAN NON-TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, BR, XF, LE, ARAB LEAGUE, (NAFFAH, FOUAD)
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